

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 04604 171728Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 USIA-15 /026 W

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P 171624Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2205

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 4604

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC (TER BEEK, RELUS), NL

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF INTERNATIONAL VISITOR

RELUS TER BEEK

REF: HAGUE 4487

1. RELUS TER BEEK, MEMBER OF THE SECOND CHAMBER AND INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE LABOR PARTY, CALLED DCM AFTERNOON OCTOBER 16 TO INFORM HIM THAT PRESIDENT OF SECOND CHAMBER, VONDELING, HAD TOLD HIM THERE WAS SIGNIFICANT POSSIBILITY DATE OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUDGET DEBATE IN SECOND CHAMBER WOULD BE MOVED UP. THUS, HE MIGHT BE ABSENT WHEN DEN UYL GOVERNMENT DEFENDED ITS FIRST FOREIGN AFFAIRS BUDGET. TER BEEK, WHO WAS EXCEEDINGLY APOLOGETIC, TOLD DCM HE MUST DELAY TRIP. HE ASKED THAT IT BE RESCHEDULED DURING PARLIAMENTARY RECESS IN LATE DECEMBER - JANUARY.

2. WHILE WE REGRET INCONVENIENCE TO DEPARTMENT, EMBASSY ASKS TER BEEK BE RESCHEDULED AS REQUESTED. AS LABOR PARTY'S INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY AND IMPORTANT LABOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPECIALIST, WE CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT TER BEEK BE ABLE TO VISIT US ON INTERNATIONAL VISITOR GRANT. SINCE HE ENTERED PARLIAMENT IN 1971 AS VOCAL NEW LEFTIST, TER BEEK HAS BECOME CONSIDERABLY MORE MODERATE AND SENSITIVE TO VALUE OF DUTCH ALLIANCE POLICY. DCM, DURING CONVERSATION WITH TER BEEK YESTERDAY, WAS ESPECAIALLY STRUCK BY HIS POSITIVE REACTIONS TO US EFFORTS TO RESTORE

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PAGE 02 THE HA 04604 171728Z

PEACE TO MIDDLE EAST AND HIS COMMENT THAT OTHER YOUNGER

MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY WHO HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF USG
SHARE THIS VIEW. THUS, WE THINK TER BEEK GRANT STILL
ONE OF THE BEST INVESTMENTS US COULD MAKE. DESPITE
INCONVENIENCE HIS CHANGE OF PLANS ENTAILS, WE VERY MUCH
HOPE HIS REQUEST TO TRAVEL IN JANUARY CAN BE
ACCOMMODATED.
GOULD

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